





Another year in the calendar has dawned upon us marking the passage of time which is constantly moving us all on the journey of life. The measuring of time for a year by the sun's revolution in the ecliptic from one equinox or solstice to the same again is called the solar or tropical year, which contains 365 days 5 hours 48 minutes 45 seconds, and is the only year of natural year because it always keeps the same seasons to the same months. In olden times the Romans had but ten months to a year, the Egyptians one month and afterwards four months, while some other people differed. Various enactments civil and religious have at length brought nearly the whole civilized world to adopt the present calendar which was adopted in 1752 when a change of the commencement of the year from the twenty-fifth of March to the first of January, was effected, and eleven hundred days stricken out by a jump from the second to the thirteenth day of September.

Well, the new year, as we have it, has appeared. We tender the usual congratulations of the season and most heartily wish each and all of our friends and our foes a Happy Year.

It is a pleasant custom in many parts of Europe and in some parts of our own country to devote the first day of the year to forming new acquaintances, renewing old friendships and in bestowing social entertainment. Every house on this day is open for callers, and free to all respectable visitors. We should like right well to have so good a custom grow up in our city.

The first day of the year affords a good occasion for taking a survey of the past and forming good resolutions for the future, thus making it a sort of annual point in life, and occasions of this kind it is to be improved. We all need to be reminded of those high claims which the moral and social virtues lay upon us for development and activity. We all need to be frequently reminded of our obligations to God and to humanity. We all need some aid to the formation of good resolutions and to carrying those resolutions into practical life.

One of our young female friends, has sent us the following beautiful thoughts upon the New Year and they are so appropriate and so happily expressed that we cannot do better than adopt them as the conclusion of this article.

The New Year.

All hail to the New Year! Forever Adieu, Adieu to the joys and the griefs of the old, but its well for a moment to pause, and review its scenes, on the tablet of memory recorded.

And thence, gather wisdom, and strength, if we may. What, however, in the future, nor lot may be cast, The lamp of existence may be lighted, and the New Year be better, for scenes that are past.

The old year, what evil it has been its days, Its suns brightly shining, and cloudless its skies! And by its pathway have glided, with hope's cheer, And peace, and prosperity, and the machine of life.

Or have clouds of misfortune, o'ershadowed its way? And pleasure, and hope, fled, at times, from its way. And sickness, and pain, at times, turned its way. Dr. Death, it is true, with loved ones, has parted.

How'er it has been, 'tis thy Father above, His thy portion of joy, as thy Father below, Even when he afflicts, he afflicts thee, in love. And his mercies, on all, be bestow'd like a God.

But adieu, to the old year, and welcome the new, Which rapidly following already is here. May its pleasures be many, its sorrows be few, Oh may it, indeed be a happy new year.

And when, like the old year, the new one is past, If another new year to our lives shall be given, May we peacefully look back on the scenes of the last.

No birth, at the record, it beareth to heaven.

Settlement of Accounts.

The settlement of accounts is an important department in business affairs. It frequently happens however that men neglect this part of their business and accounts are kept running for many years until the facts connected with the transactions are faded from the mind, and doubts and difficulties, bad feelings and lawsuits are the result. Some men do not like to settle, from a sort of indecent dread that they may be brought in debt—others from a careless procrastinating habit—others from the dread they have of the labor of adjusting their books and preparing their bills, and so, for various reasons this important business is neglected. It appears to us that it would be well for every man to make strong efforts to feel in some measure bound to effect a settlement of all his accounts, where it is practicable, at least once a season.

It was suggested to us a few days since by an old merchant, that it would be well for our citizens to fix upon some time in the year, say the month of January, for closing up generally all accounts, and begin the year by new adjustments. By adopting this course, men would expect to have frequent calls for settlement, and thus be led to make the necessary arrangements for settling their debts, and thereby be led into a good habit of an annual settlement of their accounts. We think well of the suggestion, and patriotically of the time, as we know that already many have adopted that time and are carefully settling their running accounts as near the beginning of the year as possible. There is much in having a plan of business as well as a plan of life, and this suggestion furnishes one.

We have only a common interest in the matter and make the suggestion for the common good of all business people.

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The Cincinnati Atlas states that Dr. Locke recently delivered a lecture to the Medical College of that city explanatory of his newly invented scientific instruments which he styled the "Organized Battery." The machine itself was exhibited to the audience, and is said to be a beautiful specimen of workmanship. The Atlas observes that it exhibits many advantages over the apparatus of the kind heretofore used. Although occupying but little space, it combines all kinds of batteries into one, and is so constructed that the machine itself, by means of keys and stops like an organ, can be brought to act upon the same experiment.

Dr. Locke exhibits in his scientific powers and capacities by burning leaves